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Antwort erbeten nach / Please reply to:

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954/272 WO

Datum / Date
December 30, 2005 / rc/la

International Application PCT/EP2005/002302**Heye International GmbH**

Informative Written Reply to the Written Opinion of the International Searching
Authority (regarding Item VIII)

The term "movement profile" is explained in the description on page 5, lines 4-6. It designates location and speed of the plunger during its upwards and downwards movement. According to the independent claims 1 and 11, respectively, a changeable movement profile for each plunger is provided for each section. This means that, for example, in case of two plungers two movement profiles for each section are provided, on principle. These movement profiles could be equal, however, this must not be the case. In our opinion, the paragraph on description page 5, lines 11-17 does not contradict this. Therein it reads that generally the same size gobs are provided per section, if the feeder head which is used comprises several plungers. Furthermore, in the paragraph it is explained that in this case the movement profiles of the several plungers are

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different for the same section. The difference of the movement profiles ensures that gobs having the same mass are produced.

Different movement profiles are already present in case the exemplary two plungers are located at the same time in different height, especially if they have different lower reversing positions, for example. Thus, it can be necessary that one of both plungers has to be changed in respect of its movement profile in order to obtain equal gobs. In our opinion, the above-mentioned paragraph of the description does not contradict this. Unfortunately, the last sentence under "Zu Punkt VIII." apparently is inadvertently not completely understandable in respect of the objection made, by saying (translated): "Although it is clear from the description that the plungers are changeable from each other, so that the movement profile relates to the two plungers together." (underlining added).

It cannot be understood that the description would state that in case of two plungers both movement profiles would have to be changed in the same way. Especially, it is pointed out to description page 18, line 29 to page 19, line 11. Therein, it is specifically stated that a controlled adjustment of the (second) plunger 2' relative to the plunger 2 can be carried out, with an adjustment from feeder cycle to feeder cycle.

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Dr. R. Callies